

**Naval Postgraduate School  
Department of National Security Affairs**

**NS 3510 Government and Politics of Latin America  
Summer 2002**

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Course Description: This is a course in comparative government, designed to introduce students to politics in Latin America. The course is structured around country studies of the major states of the region. The first section will focus on the Southern Cone. The second section will examine the countries of the Andean Ridge, and the third section will focus on Central America and the Caribbean. The goal of the course is to provide participants with theoretical and empirical knowledge on the major countries in the region as a foundation for future analysis of regional issues.

Prerequisites: None

Evaluation: Students are expected to read the assigned material and participate in class discussions. Students will be evaluated based on their participation (20% of grade), a ten page take home mid-term (40% of grade) and a ten page take home final (40% of grade).

Texts:

The following books contain required readings for this course.

Skidmore, Thomas and Peter H. Smith, Modern Latin America, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Oxford University Press, 2000.

Castañeda, Jorge, Utopia Unarmed, Vintage Books, 1994.

Klaren, Peter, Peru: Society and Nationhood in the Andes, Oxford 1999.

The following book is optional, but contains excellent material on Mexico.

Krauze, Enrique, Mexico, Biography of Power: A History of Modern Mexico, Harper Perennial, 1998.

There is also a course reader available at the front desk of Dudley Knox Library. The readings listed below marked with an asterisk can be found in it. The reader can either be checked out for short periods of time, or the materials it contains can be photocopied

for your convenience. I also strongly recommend that you follow current news on Latin America, either by subscribing to the New York Times (see Dora Martinez (x2845 for information about on-campus subscriptions) or by reading one of the online versions of a national newspaper with strong Latin America coverage, such as the Miami Herald, Los Angeles Times or Washington Post.

### **COURSE READINGS**

Week One:    Roots of Latin American Politics

Skidmore & Smith, 13-67.

\*Wiarda, Howard & Harvey Kline, in Latin American Politics and Development, 5th ed. Wiarda and Kline, eds. Westview Press 2000: 33-79.

### **SECTION ONE: THE SOUTHERN CONE**

Week Two:    Brazil

Skidmore and Smith, 137-176 (Brazil).

\*De Souza, Amaury, "Cardoso and the Struggle for Reform in Brazil," *Journal of Democracy* 10.3 (1999): 49-63.

\*Stepan, Alfred, "The New Professionalism of Internal Warfare and Military Role Expansion," Authoritarian Brazil, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1973, 47-65. (reader)

\*Hunter, Wendy, "Reason, Structure or Culture? Assessing Civil-Military Dynamics in Brazil," in Civil-Military Relations in Latin America: New Analytical Perspectives, David Pion-Berlin, ed. UNC Press, 2001: 36-58.

Week Three:   Argentina

Skidmore & Smith, 68-106 (Argentina).

\*Pion-Berlin, David, "Civil-Military Circumvention: How Argentine State Institutions Compensate for a Weakened Chain of Command," in Civil-Military Relations in Latin America: New Analytical Perspectives, David Pion-Berlin, ed. UNC Press, 2001: 135-160.

\*Levitsky, Steven, "The 'Normalization' of Argentine Politics," *Journal of Democracy* 11.2 (April 2000): 56-69.

\*Schamis, Hector E. "Argentina: Crisis and Democratic Consolidation," *Journal of Democracy* 13.2 (April 2002): 81-94.

Week Four: Chile

Skidmore and Smith, 108-136.

\*Valenzuela, Arturo & J. Samuel Valenzuela, "Chile and the Breakdown of Democracy," in Latin American Politics and Development, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Wiarda and Kline, eds. Westview Press 1985: 212-248.

\*Valenzuela, Arturo, "The Chilean Miracle: Lessons of South America's Success Story," *Harvard International Review* 19.4 (Fall 1997).

\*Fuentes, Claudio, "After Pinochet: Civilian Policies towards the Military in the 1990s Chilean Democracy," *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* 42.3 (Fall 2002): 111-

## **SECTION TWO: THE ANDEAN RIDGE**

Week Five: Peru

Klaren, Peter, Peru: Society and Nationhood in the Andes, Oxford 1999 (selected portions).

*Suggested Reading:*

Skidmore & Smith, 177-215.

Week Six: Colombia and Ecuador

\*Hoskin, Gary and Gabriel Murillo, "Colombia's Perpetual Quest for Peace," *Journal of Democracy* 12.2 (April 2001): 32-45.

\*Kline, Harvey and Vanessa Gray, "Colombia: Drugs, Guerillas, Death Squads and U.S. Aid," in Latin American Politics and Development, 5th ed. Wiarda and Kline, eds. Westview Press 2000: 198-227.

\*Lucero, José Antonio, "Crisis and Contention in Ecuador," *Journal of Democracy* 12.2 (April 2001): 59-73.

\*Dent, David W., "The Fragility of Dependent Democracy," in Latin American Politics and Development, 5th ed. Wiarda and Kline, eds. Westview Press 2000: 350-367.

Week Seven: Venezuela

\*Karl, Terry, "Petroleum and Political Pacts: The Transition to Democracy in Venezuela," in Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Latin America, O'Donnell, Schmitter and Whiteheads, eds., The John Hopkins University Press, 1986: 196-219.

\*Levine, Daniel and Brian Crisp, "Legitimacy, Governability and Reform in Venezuela, in Lessons of the Venezuelan Experience, Goodman et al. eds. Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995.

\*McCoy, Jennifer L., "Chavez and the End of 'Partyarchy' in Venezuela," *Journal of Democracy* 10.3 (1999): 64-77.

\*Naim, Moises, "The Real Story Behind Venezuela's Woes," *Journal of Democracy* 12.2 (April 2001): 17-31

### **SECTION THREE: CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

#### **Week Eight: Cuba**

Castañeda, Jorge, Utopia Unarmed, Vintage Books, 1994, 1-89.

Skidmore and Smith. 259-288.

\*LeoGrande, William, "From Havana to Miami: U.S. Cuba Policy as a Two Level Game," *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* 40.1 (Spring 1998): 67-86.

\*Vanderbush and Haney, "Policy toward Cuba in the Clinton Administration," *Political Science Quarterly* 114.3 (1999): 387-408.

#### **Week Nine: Central America**

Skidmore and Smith, 289-354.

Castañeda, Jorge, Utopia Unarmed, Vintage Books, 1994, 90-128.

\*Booth, John A., "Socioeconomic and Political Roots of National Revolts in Central America," *Latin American Research Review* 26.1 (1991): 33-73.

\*Paige, Jeffery M., "Coffee and Power in El Salvador," *Latin American Research Review* 28.3 (1993): 7-40.

#### **Week Ten: Mexico**

Skidmore and Smith, 217-258.

Castañeda, 129-143, 155-164.

\*Knight, Alan, "The Modern Mexican State," in The Other Mirror: Grand Theory through the Lens of Latin America, Centeno and López-Alves, eds. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 177-218.

\*Blum, Roberto E. "The Weight of the Past," *Journal of Democracy* 8.4 (1997): 28-42.

\*Schedler, Andreas, "The Democratic Revelation," *Journal of Democracy* 11.4 (October 2000): 5-19.

Week Eleven:           Future Directions in Latin American Politics

Castañeda, Jorge, Utopia Unarmed, Vintage Books, 1999, 237-266, 326-426.